(a) total production of coarse, fine and superfine varieties of paddy in Punjab during the last three years;

(b) the rates of which fine and superfine varieties of paddy were procured by procurement agencies during this period;

(c) whether PR-106, which is a superfine variety of paddy, was purchased at the rate of fine variety of paddy during the year 1995-96, togetherwith the details thereof; and

(d) what compensation would be given to the farmers for the losses accrued to them due to low rate paid to them for superfine paddy?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Variety-wise estimates of production of different crops including paddy are not prepared.

(b) Variety-wise minimum support prices of paddy during the last three years were as follows:

(Rs. per quintal)

Variety	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Common	310	340	360
Fine	330	360	375
Superfine	350	380	395

(c) PR-106 variety of paddy/rice was classified as Superfine in the State of Punjab by the procurement agencies during 1995-96.

(d) Does not arise.

Medical Facilities in Long Distance Trains

2681. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide medical facilities in long distance trains;

(b) if so, by when and in which trains these facilities are going to be introduced;

(c) whether this facility will be free or an amount will be charged from the passengers of these trains, and if to be charged, the amount thereof; and

(d) whether arrangements will be made that passengers of 2nd class are attended to on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (d) First-Aid facilities are available in all passenger carrying trains. Proposals for making doctors available on long distance trains with related scope of medical facilities are under examination.

Stoppage of 'Shan-e-Punjab' at Rajpura

2682. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide stoppage of 'Shan-e-Punjab' Express at Rajpura Railway Station;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Superfast character of Shan-e-Punjab and availability of other services at Rajpura.

Fish Farming Development Agencies

2683. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fish farming development agencies are being set-up in every State;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the establishment of such fish farming development agencies;

(c) whether the Central Government have been extending financial support to all the States for the development of these agencies; and

(d) if so, the total allocations made to different States during the Eighth Plan Period (year-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. 414 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) have been sanctioned since 1973-74 in 25 States and one Union Territory.

(b) The main objectives of FFDAs are: (i) to utilise ponds and tanks for fish culture; (ii) improve the productivity of the area covered under fish farming; (iii) create a cadre of trained manpower for disseminating the technology of aquaculture to fish farmers; (iv) create adequate employment opportunities and faster rural development; and (v) make available the requisite quality and quantity of fish seed to farmers by establishing hatcheries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Information in provided in the Statement.

Statement

The Central Assistance provided to the States/UTs under FFDA Scheme during the Eighth Plan period

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97 (Till 27.8.96)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22.00	22.00	26.00	122.00	44.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	8.00	13.00	22.00	2.00	26.00
3.	Assam	12.00	82.00	23.00	23.00	46.00
4.	Bihar	39.00	59.00	49.00	49.00	—
5.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Gujarat	15.00	17.00	17.00	—	17.00
7.	Haryana	21.00	36.00	24.00	24.00	15.00
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2.00	7.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.00	7.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
10.	Karnataka	11.00	11.00	34.00	25.00	12.00
11.	Kerala	14.00	14.00	14.00	—	19.00
12.	Madhya Pradesh	34.00	120.00	97.50	142.50	—
13.	Maharashtra	—	—	30.00	26.00	26.00
14.	Manipur	9.00	7.00	13.00	8.00	16.00
15.	Meghalaya	1.00	1.00	—	52.00	2.00
16.	Mizoram	5.00	8.00	14.00	5.00	10.00
17.	Nagaland	4.00	2.00	18.00	33.00	60.00
18.	Orissa	33.00	76.00	57.00	40.50	—
19.	Punjab	31.00	27.00	26.00	31.00	42.00
20.	Rajasthan	16.00	15.00	18.00	15.00	—
21.	Sikkim	2.00	1.00	3.00	5.00	2.00
22.	Tamil Nadu	30.00	13.00	13.00	17.00	13.00
23.	Tripura	13.00	16.00	18.50	—	6.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	111.00	161.00	170.00	187.00	100.00
25.	West Bengal	79.00	140.00	174.00	188.00	90.00
26.	Pondicherry	1.00	1.00	—	1.00	—